



**Stony Brook University**  
**School of Journalism**

*Stony Brook University School of Journalism*



*Faculty of Journalism and Communication*

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

**BETWEEN**

**THE UNIVERSITY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES, NATIONAL UNIVERSITY,  
 HO CHI MINH CITY, VIETNAM**

**and**

**THE STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY (STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK), UNITED  
 STATES OF AMERICA**

***DECEMBER 11th, 2016***

Memorandum of Understanding made this 11<sup>th</sup> of December, 2016 by and among the University of Social Sciences and Humanities, National University, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam and Stony Brook University (State University of New York) concerning mutual cooperation which will be executed by The Center for News Literacy at the Stony Brook University School of Journalism, the Stony Brook Foundation, Inc. and the Faculty of Journalism and Communication in the University of Social Sciences and Humanities, National University, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.

WHEREAS, The Center for News Literacy at the Stony Brook University School of Journalism (hereafter referred to as the “Stony Brook Center”) and the Faculty of Journalism and Communication in the University of Social Sciences and Humanities (hereafter referred to as the “USSH Faculty of Journalism and Communication”) desire to enter into this agreement to mutually enhance the activities and goals of their respective institutions by establishing a partnership to bring News Literacy education to Vietnam and to other Southeast Asian nations;

The Stony Brook Center and the USSH Faculty of Journalism agree to cooperate in the conception, planning, funding, execution and assessment of the activities described in this memo. This agreement is for a period of two years, with an understanding that by mutual consent the agreement may be renewed subject to evaluation and the availability of funding.

The Stony Brook Center will support the development, teaching and propagation of the News Literacy curriculum by the USSH Faculty of Journalism and Communication, as set forth in this memo. This support will include but not be limited to faculty training and exchanges, unlimited access to the Stony Brook Center’s Digital Resource Center, ongoing advisory services, and a maximum of \$39,000 over the two-year term of the agreement. The Stony Brook Center sees the potential in the coming years of deepening this relationship and assisting the USSH Faculty of Journalism and Communication in becoming a hub for the development and propagation of News Literacy in Vietnam and Southeast Asia.





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The two universities agree to cooperate concretely in the following ways:

1. The Stony Brook Center will provide support for the further development of a News Literacy Course by the USSH Faculty of Journalism and Communication. That assistance will include but not be limited to the following:

- Complete access to all materials developed at the Stony Brook Center, primarily through the Digital Resource Center, but also with the assistance of dedicated Stony Brook Center staff; consultation services provided by senior Stony Brook Center faculty both via email and Skype, as well as at least one in-person visit each year by a senior Stony Brook Center or the Journalism and Media Studies Centre of the University of Hong Kong (hereafter "JMSC) faculty member paid for by the Stony Brook Center.
- Efforts to arrange faculty and student exchanges.
- The Stony Brook Center will provide funding over the next two years not to exceed \$39,000 to finance the following activities:
  - Organizing, hosting, conducting, and assessing the outcomes of two, 3-day training courses for no fewer than 10 academics from Southeast Asian nations (ASEAN) and no more than 5 from Vietnam. The workshops will follow the model of a News Literacy Institute developed in 2015 by the Stony Brook Center in collaboration with the JMSC. These News Literacy Institutes would be hosted by the USSH Faculty of Journalism and Communication, which would provide classrooms and local administrative services. For its part, the Stony Brook Center will provide a maximum of \$15,000 during the two-year term of this memo to cover in all or in part meals and housing for the participants, expenses associated with recruiting, selecting and pre-training of the participants, and fees to trainers and local assistants during the Institute. In addition, the Stony Brook Center will cover the expenses of outside trainers either from the Stony Brook Center or the JMSC.
  - Building on the success of the USSH Faculty of Journalism and Communication in integrating News Literacy concepts into existing courses, it will reach out to other universities in Vietnam to offer its materials and experience in this field. During the two-year term of this memo, the Stony Brook Center will provide a maximum of \$3,000 towards the development of new applications and reinforcing existing one. Funds will be spent to run workshops in the Department and to reimburse faculty for time spent outside of their normal working duties.
  - Support for the continuation in coming years of a 3-hour lecture on News Literacy for all incoming students to Vietnam National University in Ho Chi Minh City, along with the development of tools to evaluate the impact of the lecture on the students. During the two-year term of this memo, the Stony Brook Center will provide a maximum of \$2,000 towards the presentation and assessment of this lecture.
  - Development of News Literacy courses and course materials for high schools in Vietnam. Consultations concerning the feasibility of including elements of News



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Literacy curriculum into their school's curricula will be held with faculty of selected high schools that have a standing cooperation with the USSH Faculty of Journalism and Communication. Introductory lessons will be developed by the USSH Faculty of Journalism and Communication, which will also train high school faculty. During the two-year term of this memo, the Stony Brook Center will provide a maximum of \$8,000 toward training of high school faculty and the development and production of course materials.

- Exploration of new ways to spread News Literacy concepts throughout the general public. This can include the costs of developing and printing and online publication of materials as well as subsidizing the efforts of local partners such as newspapers and local organizations. During the two-year term of this memo, the Stony Brook Center will provide a maximum of \$5,000 toward activities in this area.
- Translation, adaptation and propagation of the Stony Brook Center News Literacy Global Questionnaire, which seeks to survey the media consumption patterns and attitudes of high school and university students. During the two year term of this memo, the Stony Brook Center will provide a maximum of \$1,000 toward insuring that this survey reaches as many students as possible.
- The creation of a database of examples from local news outlets and social network postings that illustrate key News Literacy concepts. The database will not only serve as case studies for teaching News Literacy, but also for research and academic purposes. Each week, the USSH Faculty of Journalism and Communication will find an example/ case from the media, then ask an expert and journalist to analyze its content based on NL criteria. The goal will be a database of about 80 case studies, which will be shared with other partners of the Stony Brook Center via its Digital Resource Center. This data would be analyzed from both a quantitative and a qualitative perspective with the goal of publishing this research in an international scientific journal. For its part, the Stony Brook Center will provide a maximum of \$5,000 to support the above activities during the two-year term of this memorandum.

2. In addition to the duties and tasks enumerated above, and in consideration for the funds provided, the USSH Faculty of Journalism and Communication will be expected to provide:

- Quarterly reports – starting three months after the first payment is received – on the progress made in the areas above, including a full accounting of how and where the funds were utilized;
- English translations of syllabi and course outlines developed using Stony Brook Center funding;
- Annual reports on efforts to raise additional funds to expand the spread of News Literacy by USSH Faculty of Journalism and Communication.



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3. The Stony Brook Center and the USSH Faculty of Journalism and Communication agree that each is and shall at all times be deemed to be an independent contractor.
4. All notices, requests and other communications hereunder must be in writing and will be deemed to have been duly given only if delivered by facsimile, with confirmation of receipt, to the parties at the following addresses:

If to the Stony Brook Center:

Stony Brook University  
School of Journalism  
Attn: Center for News Literacy  
N4004 Frank Melville Jr. Memorial Library  
Stony Brook, New York 11794-3384  
Facsimile: 631-632-7550

If to the University of Social Sciences and Humanities – Vietnam National University

University of Social Sciences and Humanities  
Attn: Dr. Trieu Thanh Le  
10 – 12 Dinh Tien Hoang Street, District 1, Ho Chi Minh City  
Facsimile: 84-8-38221903

5. Upon execution of this Memorandum by all parties, of the Stony Brook Center will forward \$19,500 to the University account of the USSH Faculty of Journalism and Communication. Subsequent payments will be made based on mutual agreement that the previous funds have been expended under the terms of this Memorandum and on mutually agreed assessment of future needs. The Stony Brook Center reserves the right to withhold future amounts referred to herein in the event that the USSH Faculty of Journalism and Communication fails to provide to provide the quarterly reports referred to above or otherwise fails to fulfill the tasks described in this memo.

6. The USSH Faculty of Journalism and Communication shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless, the Stony Brook Center, Stony Brook Foundation, the State of New York and Stony Brook University, its officers, employees and agents against any and all claims, costs, demands, causes of action or incurred expenses, including reasonable attorneys' fees or damages of whatever kind which result, arise from or are caused by the acts or omission of the USSH Faculty of Journalism and Communication its agents, officers, employees or volunteers carrying out or arising out of any aspect of this MOU.

7. This MOU is the complete agreement between The University of Social Sciences and Humanities, National University, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, and Stony Brook University



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(State University of New York) concerning mutual cooperation which will be executed by The Stony Brook Center and USSH Faculty of Journalism and Communication and may be amended only by written agreement signed by both parties.

8. This MOU shall be governed and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New York.

9. The text of the Agreement has been written in two languages, Vietnamese, and English, and each party has one complete set. If there are any discrepancies between the two versions, the English version will be paramount and prevail.

**Stony Brook University**

**Stony Brook Foundation, Inc.**

Michael Bernstein 11-22-2016  
Signature Date

Dexter A. Bailey, Jr. 11-21-2016  
Signature Date

Provost Michael Bernstein

Executive Director Dexter A. Bailey, Jr.



**The University of Social Sciences and Humanities, National University, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam**

Vo Van Sen 12/12/2016  
Signature Date

Prof. Dr. Vo Van Sen, Rector of University of Social Sciences and Humanities

Huynh Van Thong 12/12/2016  
Signature Date

Dr. Huynh Van Thong, Dean of the Faculty of Journalism and Communication